Bicycle Route Suitability

The Arizona Bicycle Route Suitability Map developed by ADOT contains suitability ratings and gradient information of roadways on the State Highway System. Bicycle route suitability ratings of "more suitable" and "less suitable" have been assigned to all roads on the State Highway system where bicycling is allowed. These ratings were assigned by the Governor's Arizona Bicycle Task Force (GABTF). The GABTF selected three variables as potential indicators of bicycle route suitability. These factors are:

1) Traffic Volume

Average number of cars per day per lane

2) Lane Width

Center line to outside of paved surface, including shoulder

3) Percent Commercial

Percentage of commercial vehicles (truck traffic) to total traffic volume

These factors were combined to classify a road as "less suitable" or "more suitable" with the lane width factor having twice the significance as the others. In several cases, revisions were made to determinations of suitability by highly experience cyclists familiar with those areas. Information regarding grade ascent has also been provided to bicyclists to identify steep inclines along routes as an aid in planning tours.

Approximately 47% of the classified routes have a suitability rating of "more suitable." Prohibited portions of urban freeways are classified according to Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) administrative regulation.

Map of Suitable Bicycle Routes on the State Highway System

